

Over the past few weeks, I've been meeting with small business owners, like Joe Lorentz of Myles Lorentz Trucking Company in Mankato, Minnesota. Community leaders, like Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, Waseca Mayor Roy Srp, and New Ulm Mayor Joel Albrecht, and all of them have delivered a very simple message: We must end too big to fail by ensuring large financial firms are allowed to fail without burdening the taxpayer. We must protect Main Street businesses and consumers from the negative effects of greed run amuck. And we must not penalize Main Street institutions that work, community banks, credit unions and auto dealerships.

So on behalf of Main Street Minnesota, I urge my colleagues to send us a tough bill that restores transparency and accountability to America.

FISCAL YEAR 2010 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AND FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET

(Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better from their elected leaders. Vital funds to protect our troops are being held hostage, and serious proposals to deal with our soaring national debt aren't even being discussed in this body.

The brave men and women fighting our enemies overseas have been waiting for Congress to approve an emergency funding bill critical to their operations since February. Over 4 months later, still nothing. Only broken promises and missed opportunities for bipartisanship. Not only has the majority party repeatedly failed to deliver funds for our troops in harm's way, they've bypassed regular order to tack on billions more in unnecessary deficit spending. No committee deliberations, no markups, no offer of amendments, and no input from the minority. It's a national disgrace.

I urge the Congress to act to support our troops.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. This week, the Chamber will consider H.R. 5297, the Small Business Lending Fund Act. This bill will create a small business loan fund and provide capital to American small businesses. This bill also includes a boost to State lending programs, providing \$2 billion in funding to new and existing programs across the country.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy and create two out of three jobs in this country. Our economy has begun to show signs of growth and recovery, and our largest

financial institutions are stabilized, but it's time to assist local and community banks that provide the bulk of the capital to small businesses.

Job creation needs to be the number one priority forward, and legislation like this will help accomplish our goals and restore the public faith in our economy.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 5297 when it comes before us.

WE MUST HAVE A BUDGET RESOLUTION

(Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, it's now official. We're now a full 2 months behind the congressional deadline with no budget resolution in sight. In the past, this would be just another failure by the majority to meet a technical responsibility. But this year is different.

This administration's enormous government spending increases have driven our annual budget shortfall to \$1.4 trillion. That's the deficit. We're spending \$1.4 trillion more than we're bringing in. The accumulation of all our past budget deficits, the national debt, last month rocketed past \$13 trillion, and media reports last week predicted that it would balloon over \$15 trillion by 2015.

And how do we finance this debt? When American families and businesses find themselves short of cash, they cut their spending. When the Federal Government finds itself with a record deficit, we borrow money. From whom? The Chinese, the Japanese, from the Saudis, and we pay interest on that debt, hundreds of billions of dollars each year.

We can do better. We must do better. We must have a budget resolution. We must cut spending.

MONEY IN THE STIMULUS BILL WENT TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE

(Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I ran for Congress 4 years ago because I had watched the Republicans use the power that they had accrued here to turn our government over to their friends in the oil industry and the insurance industry, the drug industry and the banking industry, and so I wonder what kind of stimulus bill they would have written last year were they still in charge.

It would have been very different than the one that's on the ground today in Connecticut, one that has put funds in a small solar company in Bethel, Connecticut, Apollo Solar, creating jobs in renewable energy; a stimulus bill that just opened up a new early Head Start program in Danbury, Connecticut, employing 20 people im-

mediately and creating a lot of job opportunities for the parents who now have child care. It would have been very different than the bill that gave millions and millions in tax credits to middle- and lower-income individuals in Connecticut that have allowed them to go out and start to create a retail resurgence.

The stimulus bill would have been done very differently under the Republicans. Democrats in charge, the money went to the right people.

KYRGYZSTAN

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this week, violence flared up in Kyrgyzstan, prompting tens of thousands of Uzbeks to flee their homes and places of birth to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Innocent people, including women, children and the elderly, are suffering with over 100 killed.

Just 2 months ago, the people deposed the authoritarian President Bakiyev, who promptly fled to Belarus and the protection of the Lukashenko government. Approval of a new constitution and general elections were proceeding smoothly until the recent violence, which was prompted by forces supportive of the deposed president and other lawless elements.

Even with the present chaos, the interim Kurdish government is insisting that the date of elections will remain unchanged. For many years, I've worked with the nations along the old Silk Road in central Asia, and it pains me to see the Kyrgyz fleeing violence in their homeland.

The U.S. wants to keep our Air Force base in Kyrgyzstan, but we have shown little interest in helping the people of this nation build a republic that respects human rights free of corruption. Even China and Russia are lending their support with humanitarian aid flights. We need the State Department and President Obama to offer the support of America to a nation struggling to create democracy and freedom to strengthen their independence and sovereignty.

Without action on the part of the U.S., violence will continue, and then more than just a military base will be lost.

DON'T LET AN OIL SPILL RUIN YOUR VACATION

(Mr. FARR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as co-chair of the Congressional Tourism Caucus to remind this Nation that we should not let an oil spill ruin our vacation. Disasters drive people away from wherever there is a disastrous incident. In the Gulf States, local tourism is suffering from it. It's suffering